What is claimed is:

1. A method for purifying an immunosuppressant protein (HISP) the method comprising:

a) obtaining supernatant from hNT cells;

b) exposing the supernatant to preparative polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis to produce 20 isoelectric fractions, including active isoelectric fraction #10;

c) placing the active isoelectric fraction on a Blue Sepharose column to bind albumin; and

d) collecting the free fraction containing the concentrated, isolated HISP.

2. The compound produced by claim 1.

3. A method of treating inflammation, the method comprising administering an effective amount of an immunosuppressant protein (HISP).

4. An isolated immunosuppressant protein (HISP), said protein comprising an anionic protein

having a molecular weight of 40-100 kDa;

having an isoelectric point of about 4.8;

being obtained from hNT cell supernatant;

not being obtained from NCCIT embryonal carcinoma cells, T98G blioblastoma cells or THP-1monocytic leukemia cells;

losing activity when treated with heat, pH2, pH11, or mixed with trypsin or carboxypeptidase;

losing no activity when incubated with neuraminidase;

being capable of suppressing proliferation of responder peripheral blood mononuclear cells in allogeneic mixed lymphocyte cultures;

being capable of suppressing T-cell proliferation and IL-2 production in response to phorbol 12-myristate 13-acetate (PMA), ionomycin and concanavalin-A;

being capable of maintaining T cells in a quiescent G_0/G_1 state without lowering their viability;

not binding to heparin-sepharose CL-B gel;

not binding to albumin-binding resin Blue Sepharose;

concentrating with YM10 ultrafiltration; and

not acting through the T-cell receptor-CD3 complex or via altered accessory signal cells.

5. A method of treating inflammation, said method comprising administering an effective amount of hNT neuronal cells.